

She is the first of the most powerful and survivable class of destroyers ever put to sea. She possesses the AEGIS Weapons System with multifunction radar, capable of detecting and tracking hundreds of targets simultaneously while conducting multiple engagements.

On March 5, 2004, in Norfolk, Virginia, Commander Charles L. Stuppard became the 9th Commanding Officer of this powerful navy vessel. Commander Stuppard graduated from Cornell University in 1982 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering. He worked for 3 years as a Design and Test Engineer for Fairchild Republic Corporation in the A-10A, T-46 and SF-340 Aircraft programs. In 1985 he joined the Navy as an aviation officer candidate. After commissioning and flight training, Commander Stuppard switched to Surface Warfare.

Commander Stuppard served successively on board the following ships, September 1987 to July 1990, as Boilers Officer and Advanced Combat Direction Systems/Computers Officer, USS *Biddle* (CG 34) in Norfolk, Virginia; November 1990 to May 1993, as Electronics Readiness Officer/Combat Systems Officer, USS *Reeves* (CG 24) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; January 1993 to September 1994, as Combat Systems Officer, USS *Sides* (FFG 14) in San Diego, California; April 1995 to September 1997, as commissioning Combat Systems Officer, USS *Gonzalez* (DDG 66) in Bath, Maine and Norfolk, Virginia. From September 1997 to November 1998, Commander Stuppard attended the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island where he earned a Masters degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Afterwards, he served as Executive Officer of USS *Nicholas* (FFG 47) in Norfolk, Virginia.

After a 3-year tour of duty in the Pentagon as an Action Officer and then as an Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director for European Politico-Military Affairs, the Joint Staff Directorate of Strategic Plans and Policy, Commander Stuppard was selected as the Commanding Officer of the USS *Arleigh Burke* (DDG 51). Commander Stuppard's accomplishments and achievements are truly outstanding and serve as an example to all men throughout the country. Commander Stuppard is a fine citizen and an outstanding American. I congratulate Commander Stuppard and the crew of the *Arleigh Burke* for such a superb assignment.

#### HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

#### HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the spirit of National Police Week to honor the 870,000 law enforcement officers who enforce our laws by risking their lives, and to remember the 145 officers who sacrificed their lives for our defense in 2003.

This week, law enforcement officers will gather with the families of officers killed in the line of duty to honor the commitment of our Nation's police forces and to remember those they have lost. Just as our soldiers are called to protect our interests overseas, we depend

on our police forces to protect our freedoms, secure our communities and keep us safe and free from fear.

In this Chamber, we debate and pass laws to govern our country, to provide for the safety of our citizens. The laws we make are ineffectual without the selfless dedication of our police forces. Throughout history, these men and women have demonstrated strength and valor in protection and service on every level from local to national. From the routine task of guarding our neighborhoods to answering the call from terror on September 11, it is obvious that these men and women are heroes everyday.

It is with sadness that I recognize two heroes from my district. Patrolman First Class David Ezernack and Patrolman Jeremy Carruth were serving a routine search warrant on February 20, 2003, an attempted arrest that wounded three officers and cost Patrolmen Ezernack and Carruth their lives. Their families and friends, and several officers of the Alexandria Police Department, are in Washington this week to participate in the Candlelight Vigil and to see the names of these two officers unveiled at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. We will never adequately express our gratitude, and our sympathies, to the sacrifice of these two officers.

I stand in this Chamber grateful to all law enforcement officers, but also to give special recognition to officers who are especially challenged, serving in our Nation's rural areas. Though violent crime rates are lower in rural areas, these incidences are not decreasing over the years as rapidly as violent crime rates in urban areas. Most of the victims of violent crimes in rural areas are assaulted in their own homes, by people they know—friends, neighbors, family members—a setting more prevalent than in large cities. David Ezernack and Jeremy Carruth served a rural area, and their beat was no less dangerous than a street in a large city.

Congress has continued to afford law enforcement officers with advancements in resources, such as bulletproof vests and enhanced technology. We must continue our commitment to providing our police forces with the best training and protection, and recognize the additional resources that may be necessary for the security of rural areas.

This week, let us extend to these men and women our profound gratitude, for their exhibitions of bravery and the sacrifices they are called to make, and our sympathies to their families. As these noble men and women sacrifice for a pledge to protect and to serve, it is our duty to honor them, past, present and future, to the highest degree.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER MARY PAUL JANCHILL, D.S.W.

#### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the achievements of Sister Mary Paul Janchill, D.S.W., a tireless advocate for the rights of children and families, and one of the cofounders of the Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, Brooklyn.

For more than 50 years, Sister Mary Paul has been a pioneer and influential leader in child welfare. Sunset Park is a diverse, low-income neighborhood in Brooklyn, and almost a third of the population there is under the age of 18. Sister Mary Paul, a long-time advocate and leader in the fight for the rights of children and families, took her passion and strength, and cofounded the Center for Family Life.

Over the past 25 years, Sister Mary Paul has continued her work and dedication to meeting the needs of families that live in the financially distressed area of Sunset Park through her work at the center. She has continued the fight for low-income children and teenagers, especially those who are at risk of being swept into the social welfare system. The Center for Family Life offers services and advocacy to its clients, and already has two films, one of which received a 2003 Academy Award, that are based on its dedication and commitment to the community.

Sister Mary Paul, among her endless positive contributions, helped to modify the evaluation processes used by child welfare agencies and the family court system. She encourages people to view troubled teens as works in progress. Sister Mary Paul truly changes lives—individuals who have completed their programs later find themselves in leadership positions throughout the community. Her work is priceless, and is constantly felt by the significant number of youth, and families, that she reaches out to each and everyday.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Mary Paul Janchill, and join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize her extraordinary work in helping New York City's less privileged children and families.

#### ATTACHÉ SHOW CHOIR OF CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate the Clinton High School Attaché Show Choir upon completing its outstanding 2004 competition season.

The Clinton High School Attaché Show Choir was formed in September 1980, by Wilona Costello. Since 1992, Attaché has been led and directed by David and Mary Fehr; the instrumental pit under the direction of Robert Allen; the crew under the direction of Wesley Quick.

Attaché was named Grand Champion of the Benton Community High School "Touch of Class" competition held in Van Home, Iowa on February 14, 2004. Attaché also received the Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Most Creative Show, and Best Male (Trey Finch) and Female (Jan Jefcoat) Soloist awards. Dexter Bishop was named the outstanding performer from Attaché.

Attaché was named Grand Champion of the Homewood High School "South Central Classic" competition held in Homewood, Alabama on February 21, 2004. Attaché also received the Best Vocals, Best Choreography, and Best Overall Effect awards. Attaché was named Grand Champion of the Mixed Show Choir at